

HELICOPTER PILOT IN-TRAINING

DEFINITION

Under supervision in a training capacity, incumbents attend and participate in extensive training in the performance of duties related to the operation of a police helicopter.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED/EXERCISED

Receives supervision from sworn police personnel.
Exercises no supervision.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTIC

The Helicopter Pilot In-Training is a non-sworn, entry-level training class for candidates qualified to learn the duties of a Helicopter Pilot in the City of Fresno Police Department's Skywatch/Air Support Unit. Incumbents of this class undergo a formal, comprehensive training program to acquire or learn the special knowledge, skills and abilities required to operate a helicopter. While in this class, incumbents will not achieve permanent status within the classified service, as defined in Fresno Municipal Code Section 2-1601.1(p)(5). Upon satisfactory completion of the training program and/or six months experience, a Helicopter Pilot In-Training will be promoted to Helicopter Pilot upon the recommendation of the appointing authority. Failure to successfully complete the training program will be cause for termination. This class differs from Helicopter Pilot in that the latter is the journey level class in which incumbents perform the full range of duties.

EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES

(May include, but are not limited to, the following:)

Trains in the operation of a helicopter aircraft under Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Regulations parts 61 and 91, and assists in the enforcement of laws and ordinances.

Attends specialized training related to law enforcement aerial patrol operations.

Keeps up-to-date on related helicopter pilot issues and maintains current qualifications and proficiency in helicopter operations.

Trains and works with sworn peace officers in performing pre-flight and post-flight inspections of helicopter and associated equipment and systems in accordance with FAA regulations to ensure safe operations.

Receives training in piloting a turbine police helicopter in patrolling the city and responding to calls for protection of life and property.

Performs other related duties as assigned.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

The operation and maintenance of rotary-wing aircraft, including unique capabilities, mechanical features, and maintenance requirements of a turbine EC120 helicopter.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations.

General aerial patrol procedures, surveillance techniques, tactics and procedures.

The general geography of the City of Fresno.

Skill to:

Operate a helicopter in accordance with federal, state, and local aviation regulations, policies and procedures.

Operate a helicopter over populated residential areas, and under adverse weather conditions.

Operate a computer and a variety of word processing, spreadsheet, or software applications.

Ability to:

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing, and prepare written materials

Recognize potential mechanical hazards and failures occurring to an EC120.

Perform emergency aircraft landings, pre-flight and post-flight inspections.

Understand, interpret, and apply rules, regulations, laws, and ordinances and exercise sound judgment in the solution of difficult problems and issues.

Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the performance of assigned duties.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

FAA Commercial Pilot Certificate with Rotorcraft Rating and no limitations or waivers.

Experience:

Minimum flight experience: 500 hours helicopter turbine time, 1,500 hours helicopter PIC time, 250 night hours (unaided) and 100 cross country hours. **Preferred Experience:** Experience with Fenestron tail rotor system and time in EC120/EC130/ Eurocopter.

Special Requirement(s):

Possession and continued maintenance of a commercial rotorcraft pilot rating as issued by the Federal Aviation Administration at time of appointment.

Possession and continued maintenance of a valid Class 2 Medical Certificate as issued by the Federal Aviation Administration at time of appointment with no limitations.

Possession and maintenance of a valid California Driver's License is required at time of appointment.

Must successfully complete a polygraph test, a psychological examination, a medical examination, and an extensive background investigation prior to appointment.

APPROVED: _____
Director

DATE: _____

TB:JC:RLR:06/02/06